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Governor Inslee reappoints three to Board of Health

Keith Grellner, Stephen Kutz and James Sledge keep spots on board

OLYMPIA – Gov. Jay Inslee reappointed three members of the Washington State Board of Health. Keith Grellner, Stephen Kutz and James Sledge will begin their first full terms representing matters of health and sanitation since filling several vacancies.

"I am pleased to reappoint these three board members to full terms," Inslee said. "They capably represent a wide cross-section of experience from throughout the state."

Grellner was appointed director of environmental health for the Kitsap Public Health District in January 2009. He has worked at the district since 1989. He brings a wealth of environmental health experience to the board with expertise in onsite septic, water quality and solid waste programs.

Kutz is a member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and chairs its Tribal Council. He manages the tribe's medical and mental health clinics in Seattle, Vancouver and Longview. Kutz received his master's degree in public health from Tulane University. He also served in the Army for 20 years.

Sledge has been a faculty member at the University of Washington School of Dentistry since 2007. He teaches at the Riverpoint campus in Spokane. Sledge was a Spokane-area dentist for over 30 years before joining the University of Washington. He also served in the Peace Corps, volunteering on the Island of Borneo, the Dominican Republic, Bangladesh and Nicaragua.

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The board's mission is to provide statewide leadership in advancing policies that protect and improve the public's health. It does this by reviewing and monitoring the health status of all people in Washington; analyzing policies, providing guidance, and developing rules; promoting system partnerships; and encouraging public engagement in the public health system. For more information, visit the Washington State Board of Health website (www.sboh.wa.gov).